

February 1st, 2022

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Members and attenders of Gisborne Church of Christ are advised that an Annual General Meeting of the Church will take place as follows:

Date & Time: Sunday February 27th, 2022, following the morning service (not before 11:30am)

Place: Gisborne Church of Christ, 31 Saunders Rd. New Gisborne

Agenda:

- Opening Devotions
- Apologies
- Minutes of the previous AGM
- Motion to appoint scrutineers
- Reports from the Oversight, Administration Team and Other Leaders
- Discussion and adoption of reports
- Presentation of the Budget for the forthcoming year
- Discussion and adoption of the Budget
- Motions to amend the Constitution:
 - Change of naming conventions for ministry staff
 - Remove references to Membership Rolls

(Documentation related to these Motions can be found in the following pages.)

- General Meeting / opportunities for other discussion
- Meeting close

NOTE: As proposed changes to our Constitution are to be voted on at this meeting, all members are strongly encouraged to attend. Non-members are most welcome but are not entitled to vote.

Due to the pandemic, provision will be made for online attendance and voting for those who would prefer not to attend in person. To register your interest in attending online, please send an email to connect.gcofc@outlook.com.

As with any attendance at the church, government mandated COVID guidelines will apply to this meeting, as follows:

- *You must check in using our QR code on arrival.*
- *Masks must be worn indoors.*
- *Please social distance – keep 1.5m apart.*
- *Use hand sanitiser on entry.*

Thank you for helping us comply with government guidelines and keeping us COVID Safe

Motion to amend the Constitution of Gisborne Church of Christ:

Change of naming conventions for ministry staff

History

On November 14th 2021 – following a process of due notification and communication – a General Meeting was conducted after the Sunday morning service, to vote on proposed changes to ministry naming conventions in the Constitution – specifically a proposal to rename the position of ‘Senior Pastor’ to ‘Ministry Team Leader’. A vote was conducted, and the motion passed. However, the Oversight have since received feedback from some members concerned about the way in which that General Meeting was conducted. Accordingly, the Oversight have determined that a vote should be held again, to alleviate those concerns, and a motion will therefore be put again, to the February 2021 AGM.

Background to the Motion

Commencing in April 2021, a Transition Team – comprised of diverse representatives from the congregation – worked together to identify desired growth areas and a vision, as we move forward into a new season in the life of our church.

An important recommendation from the Team – which the Oversight supports – was to change the name of our senior ministry role from ‘Senior Pastor’ to ‘Ministry Team Leader’. This new term will better reflect the leadership approach needed to implement the identified growth areas and vision for the future.

Because the Constitution – in several places – uses ‘Pastor’/‘Senior Pastor’ terminology, this motion is required to bring our Constitution into line with the desired new terminology.

Further information on the background to the proposed changes can be found in the following places:

- [Church Profile Document](#)
- [Ministry Team Leader Profile](#)
- [Sermon Recording of 17 October 2021 – ‘Transition Process’](#)
- [Gisborne Church of Christ Constitution](#)

There will be opportunity for discussion of the motion at the AGM; however, members are asked to please familiarise themselves first with the background information in the above linked resources.

The Motion

That the following wording changes be made to the Constitution of Gisborne Church of Christ, to reflect a name change of our senior ministry role from 'Senior Pastor' to 'Ministry Team Leader'.

1. In Section 7.1, insert the following new paragraph:
 - a. "Throughout this document, the term 'Minister' refers collectively to both the Ministry Team Leader and any Associate Ministers."

2. In Sections 7.1.1, 7.1.2, 7.3 (heading), 7.3.1, 7.3.2, 7.4 (heading), 7.4.1, 11.1.2, 11.3.3, 13.1 and Appendix 1, in all instances, replace the words:
 - a. "Senior Pastor" with "Ministry Team Leader"
 - b. "Associate Pastor" with "Associate Minister"
 - c. "Associate Pastor(s)" with "Associate Minister(s)"
 - d. "Pastors" with "Ministers"
 - e. "Pastor(s)" with "Minister(s)"

Motion to amend the Constitution of Gisborne Church of Christ:

Remove references to Membership Rolls

Background to the Motion

In December 2019, a General Meeting of church members voted in support of a motion for changes to the Constitution regarding Church Membership. Amongst other things, these changes removed the definitions of “Roll A” and “Roll B” membership (meaning people are now either members or non-members). However, the changes neglected to address the usage of those terms elsewhere in the Constitution.

This motion seeks to “tidy up” the Constitution to avoid any confusion over an item already agreed.

A copy of the current Constitution [can be found here](#).

The Motion

That the following wording changes be made to the Constitution of Gisborne Church of Christ, to remove remaining references to Membership Rolls:

1. In Section 7.4.1 (c) (i) remove the words “on Roll A.”, so that the sentence finishes “...by a simple majority vote of the members.”
2. In Section 7.4.2 (c) (i) remove the words “on Roll A.”, so that the sentence finishes “...by a simple majority vote of the members.”
3. In Section 11.2.1, remove the words “on Roll A”, so that the sentence reads “Any member who meets the Biblical qualifications for leadership...”
4. In Section 13.1.3 (b), remove the words “Roll A”, so that the sentence reads “...upon the joint request of five or more members.”
5. In Section 13.1.3 (c), remove the words “on Roll A”, so that the sentence reads “...all members will be advised in writing...”
6. In Section 13.2.1, remove the words “on Roll A”, so that the sentence reads “...a quorum consists of 50% or more of members.”
7. In Section 13.2.3 (a), remove the words “on Roll A”, so that the sentence reads “Any member aged 16 years or over is eligible to vote.”